

## Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims

1-12. (cancelled)

13. (original) Apparatus for relieving discomfort caused by swollen tissue ailments comprising:

at least one strip of material having first and second ends, said strip of material having one side that includes an adhesive applied at least to said first and second ends, said strip and said adhesive, when applied to a person's body, acting to separate said swollen tissue from non-swollen tissue.

14. (original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said at least one strip of material comprises:

a first strip of material having third and fourth ends, said first and third ends being the same end; and

a second strip of material having fifth and sixth ends, said second and fifth ends being the same end.

15. (original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein adhesive is absent from a portion of said first strip of material between said third and fourth ends.

16. (original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said third end comprises:

a plurality of frictional members that enhance said separation caused by said first and second strips of material.

17. (original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein adhesive is absent from a portion of said first strip of material between said fifth and sixth ends.

18. (original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said fifth end comprises:

a plurality of frictional members that enhance said separation caused by said first and second strips of material.

19. (original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein adhesive is absent from a portion of said strip of material between said first and second ends.

20. (original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said first and second ends each comprise:

a plurality of frictional members that enhance said separation caused by said strip of material.

21. (original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said first and second strips of material are each pre-formed pieces of material configured such that, when applied to a person's body, they separate the buttocks to relieve discomfort caused by hemorrhoids.

22-26. (cancelled)